

# *New Mexico Notes*

## **Annual NMPMA Convention**

*The New Mexico Petroleum Marketers Association's annual convention and trade show* was held August 19, 20, and 21st. Unfortunately, this year the attendance was down and I think that the mergers and acquisitions of the members' businesses have had an effect on the Association, as the meetings I go to in New Mexico are no different than all the other states! We are all struggling to deal with the shrinking membership. Even with a lack of attendance, we were still able to maintain a very nice profit from the convention and we are looking at different things we might change to help the convention succeed.

The convention started the 19th with over 50 in attendance at the Welcome Reception, and afterwards there were several suppliers that hosted their customers to an evening dinner. The golf tournament was August 20th and very well attended, with 96 golfers teeing off at 8:00 a.m. at the very nice Sandia Golf course. This year's winners were Craig Cashon, Jeff Scarbrough, Andy Kendrick, and Justin Kinney. Finishing second were Jonas Armenta, Ronnie Meng, James Lehman, and Josh Hines. The trade show opened at 3 p.m. and ended at 7 p.m. There was a reception on the trade show floor that was hosted by Werts Welding and Tank Service, Bowlin Travel Centers, Inc., and D&H United Fueling Solutions.

This year's lucky winners of the flat screen TVs donated by Chevron Products Co., Delek US, and HollyFrontier Corp., were Vanessa Mellone from the New Mexico Lottery, and NMPMA members Benny Hodges and Jason Allee. Congratulations to them. The keynote dinner speaker was the very entertaining Chairman of the New Mexico House Transportation Committee, Patricia Ruiloba, who, between his jokes, gave us an update on New Mexico highways and transportation needs. Steve Clark, WPMA First Vice President was going to give an update of WPMA, but had a sudden emergency and could not be at this year's convention. However, Leland Gould, WPMA Second Vice President, took Steve's place and gave a very good presentation.

The next morning, August 21st, there was a breakfast followed by a general membership meeting with speakers. Sam Moore from Federated Insurance did a presentation on Drive S.A.F.E.R, and it was a great presentation. He was followed by Nita Belles, C-Stores Against Human Trafficking (CSAT), Founder and Executive Director, and it was a very moving presentation on a growing problem in the United States. Next was Dana Bahar, Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau Chief with dialog on regulatory changes and upcoming initiatives.

Listed below are all the sponsors of this year's convention:

Admiral Beverage, Altria, Bowlin Travel Centers Inc, Chevron Products Co, Coastal Transport, Core-Mark, D&H United Fueling, Delek US, Eaton Sales, Federated Insurance, Groendyke Transport, HollyFrontier Corp, Honstein Oil, Inland Kenworth US, JUUL Labs, Kendrick Oil, Marathon, McLane, National Distributing, Phillips 66, Premier Distributing Co, RAI Reynolds American, Shell, Southern Wine and Spirits of NM, Valero, and Werts Welding and Tank Services.

Thanks to all our sponsors. Without your generosity, we would not be able to put this convention on for the membership.

## **Upcoming Events**

*The NMPMA Convention and Trade Show* will be held *August 17-19, 2020*, at SANDIA RESORT and CASINO in Albuquerque, New Mexico. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

*I wish all of you a very safe Holiday season and a prosperous New Year!*